August, 1989.

Here is some background information of women we worked with:

Zabia : Zabia came to Pakistan one year ago from Kunduz in northern Afghanistan where her family lived. they had their own house and her husband was working as a labourer in fruit orchards. During a bombardment her parents-in-law who lived with them, got killed, they also lost their five goats and the Russians kidnapped her husband. Zabia does not know where he is or even if he is alive. Zabia stayed alone with her six children but then left Afghanistan together with her brother-in-law , travelling on donkeys. During their two month journey they had very little to eat and her four year old daughter was killed in the bombardment on the way to Pakistan.

Zabia now lives in a refugee camp. Her brother-in-law , who is old, begs for food, as they do not get any ration.Therefore Zabia is happy to have a sewing machine and wants to sew clothes for other people. She herself has only two dresses and for the last five years she could not sew any new ones for herself.

Zabia has had no news about her house and her village but she would like to go back to Afghanistan if ever it becomes free.

Lal Bibi :- Lal Bibi lived with her family in the region of Kunduz. After most of the houses were destroyed, she and her five children left Afghanistan together with other people from her village. Her husband was killed in Jihad (war). She could take some food and three donkeys but one donkey was killed on the way in a bombardment. The two other donkeys were too weak to carry them beacause they did not have enough to eat. After two months they reached Pakistan.

Lal Bibi has no male member anymore in her family, as her uncle, two cousins, and two brothers have all been killed in the Jihad. In refugee camp, she and her five children live only from the rations they get (wheat,oil, sugar). Lal Bibi has no news from their relatives in her village in Afghanistan but some people told her it had been bombed again.

Malal : Malal belongs to a group of twenty women doing embroidery work. A middle aged woman, she seems to be a cheerful person. Her clothes though not new, were clean, only her Chader was a bit torn.

Malal comes from the region of Kandahar where her husband was working as a labourer and they had their own house. His little son was two years old when the father decided to leave his family and join the mujahideen. Since that time seven years ago, Malal has not had any news from him. Recently she heard that people might have seen him in Iran. But Malal does not know if this is true.

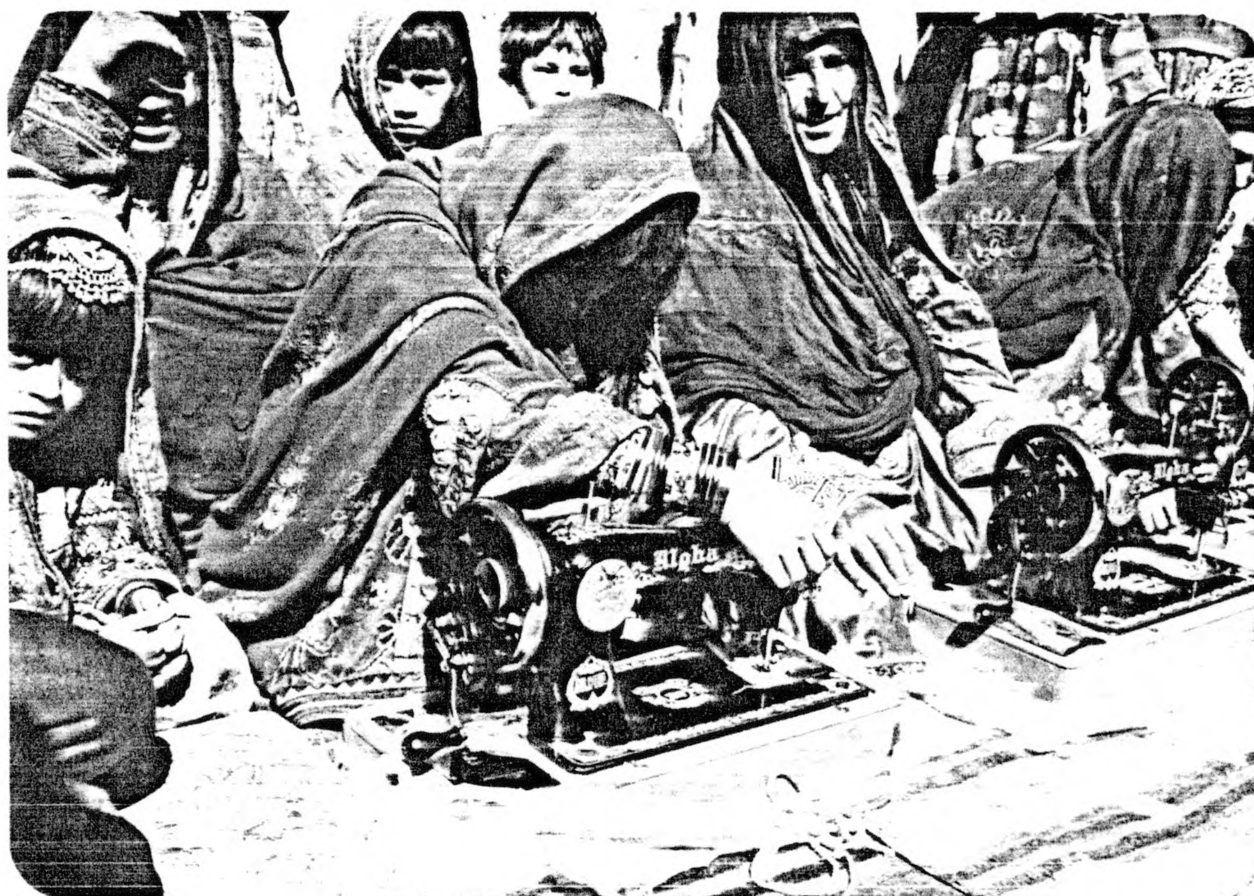
One year later Malal also left her village with her parents, after it had been bombed by the Russians. Travelling by car they reached Pakistan border in one day. In the refugee camp they are living only from rations which they get, flour, oil, sugar and this year from the Muslim feast of Eid, they received some meat.
They have heard that their house in Afghanistan has been destroyed and two cousins have been killed in the Jihad. Malal's son does not remember his father anymore but goes to nursery school now. I asked the mother what she would do if her only child decided to become a mujahid and her answer was: she would not mind.

Malika : Malika also comes from the region of Kandahar, where she lived in her own house and her husband worked as a labourer in constructing houses. Six years ago they left the village, after her home had been destroyed by bombs, and travelled by car in one day to Pakistan.
Two cousins and one brother have been killed during the war. Malika has three children who were all born in the refugee camp. Her husband is living most of the time in Quetta, where he sells the embroidery work of his wife. Every eight or ten days he is returning to the camp to see his family.



Safar Bibi :- belongs to the Baluch tribe. She has no rations, because she has no male member in her family and lives with other people in a room. Due to frequent bombardment she had to leave Kandahar, and took a loan from other people for the truck fare to Pakistan. After reaching there her husband went away and has never come back in five years. Many people said he may have been killed, or he may be in a Russian prison, or he went to Iran to search for work. She has many difficulties as a young woman with two small daughters and has to go from house to house to wash clothes for richer refugees. She said she had never had it easy not in Afghanistan either. She married when she was very young and doesn't know the whereabouts of her parents. She has learnt how to sew and got a sewing machine for half price with our project.

Naik Bibi :- who belongs to the Baragzai tribe is a young woman with three small children. Her husband got killed and she had to walk for 20 days to reach Pakistan. She came with neighbours and on the way several planes came and bombed the way so they had to hide by lying down. She also finds it difficult here with small children and no male member to earn and help them. She is happy to get the sewing machine and to have learnt how to sew.



E. Neuenschwander

Elizabeth Neuenschwander.

Here is some background information of the women we worked with:

Jamal : One year ago Jamal, her six children and her husband came from Kunduz by car to Pakistan. While they were travelling they were caught by the Russians, but during the night they managed to run away. Later they were bombed and Jamal was badly injured when bomb particles struck her body. Her son was also hit by a bomb piece and his hand was injured. After 13 days they finally reached Pakistan where Jamal stayed for some weeks in a hospital, but left before she recovered because of her children. Even now one year later she still has an open wound in her leg which is very painful and she can only walk with the help of a stick. She comes to the sewing course on a donkey, but sometimes she has to leave earlier because she does not feel well.
Her husband is old, but with his donkey he brings bushes from far-off places and sells them to the other people. They don't get any rations since they live in the camp.
They would like to go back to their country if it becomes free, but there is still bombardment in their village. All the houses have been destroyed and only a few people are living there. Jamal's brother has been killed in Jihad.



Bakhtawar :- has been a widow for the last eight years and has three children. Her youngest was one month old at the time when her husband was killed. Her eldest son also went to fight and he is very badly injured in a hospital in Quetta, but she has no money to visit him. She has no other relatives and is very poor and had to get a loan from a shopkeeper to buy food. She has to pay Rs. 600.00 back to him and he did not want to give any more.
One day he came to her tent when she had fever and was sick and he looked around her tent. When he saw the sewing machine which she got from our project after she had learnt how to sew, he took it away. She went to get the machine back from him because, with the machine she could earn money to pay the loan and support for her family. She was so badly hurt that she said to him that she wished he will have no luck in life. He really had problems one after the other he had to sell his motor bike then her sewing machine, after that even his shop etc. He came back to her and gave her a prayer cloth and said;" Please forgive me and pray for me , I am a very poor man."

She was the only woman in our project who earned a sewing machine for half price a 2nd time.



Kashmira : Kashmira lived in a small village of 30 families in Kunduz, in northern Afghanistan. Her husband was working as a labourer and they had their own house. Two years ago when their village was bombed her father, mother and a brother died on the spot, burried under the roof of the house. Kashmira's husband who was a mujahideen was cought by the Russians and is missing.

Kashmira left Afghanistan, together with her father in law and her six children. They could only take two donkeys with them, on which they travelled, during the five months to Pakistan. One of the donkeys got killed on the way and Kasmira's two years old daughter died in a bombardment. They brought nothing to eat for their journey, but sometimes other refugees helped them and gave her some food.

In Mohammad Khail they depend only on rations. Kashmira's father-in-law is old and unable to work because of his injuries. He has got bomb particles in his hands and feet and limps since then.

Kashmira still has some relatives in Afghanistan, but most of the houses in the village have been destroyed.



November, 1989.

CRS WOMEN PROJECT

Here is some background information of the women we worked with:

Shah Gul :

Shah Gul and her family come from Khanshin, where they were peasants and worked for landlords. Their village was bombed by the Russians and they lost most of their belongings. The rest was looted and the Russians killed the children and the men, and took the women with them.
Shah Gul left the country together with her family. They travelled on camels and donkeys and reached Pakistan in five days. On the way they were bombed again and a bomb piece struck against the leg of her husband. He was taken to the hospital but could not be cured completely, so since that time he is disabled. Before that he had also been a freedom fighter for 3 years. They have lived in Pakistan for the last 9 years, but do not get any rations. Two brothers-in-law of Shah Gul are working as labourers.

Zar Bakht :

Zar Bakht is a widow with four little children aged from 1 to 5 years. Two years ago she came from Kunduz, where they had their own house. Her husband worked as a labourer and was also a mujahideen. One day when he was sitting with other mujahideen having a meal, suddenly the Russians came and surrounded them. The other mujahideen managed to hide and fire from a safe position, but unfortunately her husband was caught by the Russians, and very badly beaten and killed.
Zar Bakht is very poor because she does not get any rations for herself and her children. She is dependent only upon a neighbour who gives her food, and when somebody dies, they give her all his clothes. She has no relatives in Afghanistan either but would like to go back if it becomes free.



Bibi Aisha :

Bibi Aisha and her family came from Kunduz to Pakistan. In Afghanistan they lived in their own house and her husband worked as a labourer in fruit orchards. After her brother-in-law was killed in Jehad. Bibi Aisha left the country with her children but could take nothing with them. During their journey Aisha lost her daughter in the mountains but she found her again. They travelled by camels and it took two months to reach Pakistan.

Her husband is still in Afghanistan with his second wife and is fighting as a mujahideen. Bibi Aisha has some relatives in Afghanistan and sometimes she get news from there. Her parents also remained there and her father is a mujahideen too. She and her children get ration from the camp but she would prefer to go back to her country.

Rooh Gul :

Rooh Gul is a middle-aged woman who left Afghanistan ten years ago and comes from Panjwai (region of Kandahar). There she lived in her own house with her ten children and her parents-in-law. Her husband was working as a labourer in fruit orchards. Rooh Gul left her village after it had been bombarded and they came to Pakistan via Nushki in 25 days. For their journey they had to hire camels.

On the way they were again bombarded and 25 members of her family were killed. Her husband was also a mujahideen and was killed in Jehad (Holy war). Both of her sons are also mujahideens and one of them was kidnapped by the Russians, so Rooh Gul does not know where he is. The other son comes to see his family one or two times a year, and he has his wife and two children with his mother. Only one of Rooh Gul's daughters is married and she has no male member to help her. The daughters do embroidery work which they sell to the people of the camp. Otherwise they only live upon the rations.

Rooh Gul would like to stay where she is for the moment, because in Afghanistan they would have to start again and rebuild their house.

SHEET NO. 01 December, 1989.

CRS WOMEN PROJECT QUETTA

AR WOMEN/DISABLED MEN TRAINED IN DIFFERENT SKILLS IN 1989.

S.NO.	STARTED	COMPLETED	PLACE AND GROUP LEADER(S)	SKILLS TRAINED IN	TOTAL PARTICIPA
1.	01-01-1989	15-01-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Amanullah	Emb. Q. Control	07
2.	02-01-1989	15-01-1989	Piralizai, Ali Ahmed Khan	Emb. Q. Control	07
3.	03-01-1989	20-01-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Zakiro	Emb. Q.Contol	15
4.	08-01-1989	10-02-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Ghulam Sarwar	Schooluniforms + Soap	08
5.	10-02-1989	20-02-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Saeed Nabi	Schooluniforms + Soap	08
6.	16-01-1989	25-02-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Saeed Khan	Schooluniforms + Soap	10
7.	23-01-1989	10-02-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Pir Mohammad	Emb. Q. Control	15
8.	23-01-1989	25-02-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Rozi Khan	Schooluniforms + Soap	11
9.	24-01-1989	20-02-1989	Loralai/Spedar, Mullah Jamaludin	Schoolbags	10
10.	25-01-1989	20-02-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Saira	Emb. Q. Control	15
11.	25-01-1989	20-02-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Alaudin	Emb. Q. Control	18
12.	30-01-1989	02-03-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Alaudin	Schooluniforms	10
13.	07-02-1989	31-03-1989	Dalbandin, Zort Chah, Rahima	Schooluniforms + Soap	08
14.	08-02-1989	31-03-1989	DBN, Zort Chah, Sardar Tamnai	Schooluniforms + Soap	08
15.	14-02-1989	20-03-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Ghulam Haider	Schooluniforms	09
16.	15-02-1989	30-03-1989	Moh. Khail #5,Amanullah,Disabled men	Schooluniforms	08
17.	18-02-1989	20-03-1989	Loralai/Spedar, 2nd group	Schoolbags	10
18.	25-02-1989	31-03-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Jumma, Disbaled men	Schooluniforms	09
19.	27-02-1989	31-03-1989	M.K. # 5, Abdrusool,Disabled women	Schoolbags	08
20.	06-03-1989	31-05-1989	DBN, Zort Chah,Arbab Mussa, Dis. men	Schooluniforms	08
21.	15-03-1989	15-04-1989	Loralai/Spedar, 3rd group	Schoolbags	10
22.	14-03-1989	20-05-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Disabled women	Schooluniforms	08
23.	20-03-1989	30-05-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Mamoor, Widows	Schooluniforms	09
24.	22-03-1989	04-04-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Rozi Khan	Emb. Q. Control	15
25.	27-03-1989	31-05-1989	DBN, Z. Chah, Noor Mohd. Disabled men	Schooluniforms	09
26.	02-04-1989	06-04-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Amanullah	Emb. Q. Control	12
27.	01-04-1989	06-04-1989	Piralizai, Ali Ahmed Khan	Emb. Q. Control	10
28.	14-04-1989	24-04-1989	Zarkarez No. III, 1st. group	Quilt sewing	20
29.	17-05-1989	27-05-1989	Zarkarez No. III, 2nd group	Quilt sewing	20
30.	29-05-1989	15-06-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Mohammad Hashim	Schooluniforms(Girls) + Soap	08
31.	31-05-1989	10-06-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Saira, 2nd group	Emb. Q. Control	20
32.	31-05-1989	15-06-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Jumma	Emb. Q. Control	05
33.	07-06-1989	31-06-1989	M.K. #5, Abdul Ghayoor, Disable men	Schooluniforms	08
34.	12-06-1989	22-06-1989	Zarkarez No. III, 3rd group	Quilt sewing	25
35.	18-06-1989	30-06-1989	Zarkarez No. III, 4th group	Quilt sewing	24
36.	19-06-1989	15-07-1989	DBN, G.Chah, A. Hakim, Disabled men	Schooluniforms	08
37.	04-07-1989	31-07-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Mohd, Disabled (M/W)	Schooluniforms	10
38.	10-07-1989	10-08-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Rustam	Schooluniforms	09
39.	08-07-1989	20-07-1989	Mohammad Khail, Camp No. 01	Emb. Q. Control	30
40.	10-07-1989	25-07-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Baluch	Emb. Q. Control + Soap	13
41.	23-07-1989	20-08-1989	DBN, Gillah Chah, Disabled men	Schooluniforms	09
42.	01-08-1989	12-08-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Rustam	Schoolbags + Soap	10
43.	12-08-1989	02-09-1989	M.K. # 5, Sarwar Khan, Disabled men	Schooluniforms	08
44.	16-08-1989	25-08-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Mohammad	Schoolbags + Soap	08
45.	20-08-1989	31-08-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Shirin Gul	Emb. Q. Control + Soap	18
46.	28-08-1989	12-09-1989	Chagai, Umar Chah, 1st. group	Schoolbags	09
47.	28-08-1989	12-09-1989	Chagai, Umar Chah, 2nd group	Schoolbags	08
48.	28-08-1989	12-09-1989	Chagai, Umar Chah, 3rd group	Schoolbags	08
49.	29-08-1989	13-09-1989	Chagai, Umar Chah, 4th group Dis. men	Schoolbags	07
50.	02-09-1989	14-09-1989	Loralai/Katwee, 1st. group	Quilt sewing	25
					585

Continued/**

SHEET NO. 02 December, 1989.

CRS WOMEN PROJECT QUETTA

AR WOMEN/DISABLED MEN TRAINED IN DIFFERENT SKILLS IN 1989.

.NO.	STARTED	COMPLETED	PLACE AND GROUP LEADER(S)	SKILLS TRAINED IN	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS
51.	03-08-1989	30-09-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Sarwar Khan	Schooluniforms	08
52.	14-09-1989	15-10-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Taj Mohammad	Schooluniforms	08
53.	14-09-1989	17-10-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Sarwar Khan, Dis. men	Schooluniforms	06
54.	19-09-1989	30-09-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Dost Mohammad	Emb. Q. Control	17
55.	25-09-1989	30-10-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Disabled men	Schooluniforms	07
56.	25-09-1989	05-11-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Abdul Nabi	Schooluniforms	08
57.	02-09-1989	12-11-1989	DBN, Gillah Chah, Noor Mohammad	Emb. on Bags	01
58.	02-10-1989	12-10-1989	DBN, New Girdi Jungle	Quilt sewing	25
59.	11-10-1989	15-11-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Jumma	Schooluniforms + Soap	12
60.	19-10-1989	30-11-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Jumma, Disabled men	Schooluniforms	08
61.	25-10-1989	30-11-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Arbab Sher	Schooluniforms + Soap	11
62.	28-10-1989	15-11-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Hazarato, Arbab Sher	Emb. Q. Control	40
63.	30-10-1989	17-11-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Saleh Mohd Baluch	Emb. Q. Control	09
64.	30-10-1989	10-11-1989	Piralizai, Ali Ahmed Khan	Emb. Q. Control	27
65.	20-10-1989	27-10-1989	Loralai/Katwee No.02	Quilt sewing	25
66.	02-11-1989	15-12-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Gulo Jan	Schoolbags + Soap	12
67.	09-11-1989	20-11-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Ghulam Ali	Emb. Q. Control	11
68.	27-11-1989	20-12-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Mohammad Amin	Schooluniforms + Soap	08
69.	07-12-1989	30-12-1989	Moh. Khail # 5, Abdul Nabi	Schooluniforms + Soap	08

Grand Total :- 836

Women Trained in 1989 :

Mohammad Khail Camps :-	456 women
Piralizai Camps :-	44 women
Loralai Camps :-	169 women
Dalbandin Camps :-	67 women
Total:-	736 women

INCLUDING :-

Disabled men = 100
Disabled women = 19

Disabled men Trained in 1989:-

Moh Khail Camps :-	59 men
Dalbandin Camps :-	41 men
Total :-	100 men

E. Neuenschwander

Elizabeth Neuenschwander,
Project Manager.

REPORT OF THE IG PROJECT FOR AFGHAN REFUGEE WOMEN AND DISABLED MEN
QUETTA, LORALAI, MOHAMMAD KHAIL, PIRALIZAI, NEW GIRDI JUNGLE, ZORT CHAH
GILLA CHAH AND UMAR CHAH REFUGEE CAMPS

January to December, 1989.
Elizabeth Neuenschwander, Project Manager.

At the beginning of this year in our project, we had to prepare 6000 uniforms, 5000 schoolbags and an allowance was given for the first time to prepare embroidery work for sale. During the year in May, a contract was prepared for 25,000 quilts, but due to limited funds of UNHCR the contract get never signed and they provided funds for 5000 quilts which were already made until end of October, 1989.

This year 100 disabled men in the camps learned how to sew by preparing school-uniforms and schoolbags, in addition to the target of 400 women for 1989.
In September the target was extended to 450 women and 100 men, also the order for schooluniforms increased to 7250 instead of 6000.
As a result of the training and their work, the disabled men like women obtained a sewing machine for half price. 550 sewingmachines from the project, all other machines from private donations.



CRS WOMEN PROJECT QUETTA

INCOME GENERATING PRODUCTION PROJECT FOR AR WOMEN IN BALUCHISTAN

The Project was started in June,1986, in Loralai district.
AR women trained in different skills in :-

Loralai -	Zarkarez No. 1	76	women
	Katwee	77	women
	Spedar	39	women
	Muslimbagh	12	women
	Total women trained :-	204	women

Production in 1986 :-

204 women were trained in cutting and sewing schooluniforms.

8000 Schooluniforms were produced.

Activities in 1987 :-

AR women trained in different skill in :-

Loralai camps	312	women
Muslimbagh	64	women
Moh. Khail, Camp # 4,	75	women
Gulistan and Piralizai	58	women
Total women trained :-	509	women

Production in 1987 :-

13,709 Quilts were produced.
2,500 Schooluniforms were produced.
3,720 Schoolbags were produced.

Sweaters were kintted and Soap demonsterations have been held.

Activities in 1988 :-

AR women trained in different skills in :-

Loralai camps	409	women
Gulistan and Piralizai	59	women
Moh. Khail camps	309	women
Dalbandin camps	220	women
Total women trained :-	997	women

Production in 1988 :-

6,000 Schooluniforms were produced.
4,500 Schoolbags were produced.
15,000 Quilts were produced.
1,281 Embroidery pieces were made, mostly for Save the Children U.S.A. Islamabad.
Soap demonsterations were held.

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Activities in 1989 :-

AR women trained in diffderent skills in :-

Loralai camps	169	women
Piralizai camps	44	women
Moh. Khail camps	456	women
Dalbandin camps	67	women
Total women trained :-	736	women

AR disabled men trained in schooluniforms and schoolbags sewing.

Dalbandin camps	41	men
Moh. Khail camps	59	men
Total disabled men trained :-	100	men

Production in 1989 :-

7,250	Schooluniforms were produced.
5,000	Schoolbags were produced.
5,000	Quilts were produced.
3,088	Embroidery pieces were made; Including Save the Children U.S.A. and Threadlines Gallery. Soap demonsterations were held.

E. Neuenschwander
Elizabeth Neuenschwander,
Project Manager.

SUMMARY OF THE CRS WOMEN PROJECT, 1989.

BY ELIZABETH NEUENSCHWANDER.

5000 Quilts were produced and 164 women benefited from the work.

7250 Schooluniforms were produced, 174 women and 93 disabled men learned to sew and received sewing machines at half price.

5000 Schoolbags have been produced, 93 women and 7 disabled men learned to sew and received sewing machines at half price.

787 Sewing machines could be provided at half price from UNHCR funds and private donations.
We have a revolving fund for the sewing machines, so that the beneficiaries pay back half of the price from the work they do and from this amount we can purchase new machines until all the funds are used.

3088 Embroidery pieces were produced for Save the Children US, Threadlines Gallery, Office and Swiss sale in Switzerland.

736 Poor widows received training in different skills in 1989.

100 Disabled men were trained in Schooluniforms and schoolbags sewing.

163 Women participated in Soap demonsterations.

Beneficiaries in 1989 :-

	Skills and courses :	No. of participants	Total amount paid
a.)	Schooluniforms	267	Rs. 145,000.00
b.)	Schoolbags	100	Rs. 45,000.00
c.)	Quilts	164	Rs. 90,000.00
d.)	Embroidery	305	Rs. 195,157.00
	Totals:-	836	Rs. 479157.00

E. Neuenschwander

Elizabeth Neuenschwander,
Project Manager.
December, 1989.

UNHCR + CRS

Supported by Oxfam and Norad.

PK-SR-017

PROJECT IG FOR AFGHAN REFUGEE WOMEN

LORALAI, MOHAMMED KHEL, PIRALIZAI,
GULISTAN, NEW GIRDI JUNGLE,
NEW SHIRINAB, SORTCHAH, GILACHAH
REFUGEE CAMPS

JANUARY 1988 - DECEMBER 1988

ELIZABETH NEUENSCHWANDER,
PROJECT MANAGER

REPORT OF THE IG PROJECT FOR AFGHAN REFUGEE WOMEN QUETTA, LORALAI, MOHAMMAD KHAIL, PIRALIZAI, GULISTAN, NEW GIRDI JUNGLE, NEW SHIRINAB, ZORT CHAH, GILLA CHAH REFUGEE CAMPS

January 1988 to December 1988

Elizabeth Neuenschwander, Project Manager

This year we should also reach the women in Dalbandin area, nearer to the Iranian Border, which means in just the opposite direction from Quetta, where we worked before.

The greater part of the road leads through desert-like landscape with sand dunes, beside which there are also rocks and small stones. We often had to travel through sandstorms and it takes seven hours by car and two hours by helicopter to reach Dalbandin.

Due to the very hot climate in summer, I thought it would be good to investigate and start the work there as soon as possible.





Mohammad Khail

Transit camp: In the beginning of the year we worked in the Transit camp in three different tent groups of 8 women each. The women had never used a sewing machine and had quite a lot of difficulties to handle them. Every morning we had to clean the thread from the machine. Sometimes we brought the machines out of the tent to the driver to help clean them, because being a man he was not allowed to come into the tent. Finally all the women learned and they feel happy to possess a machine obtained at half-price. First they learned to sew children's garments from second-hand clothes and after that made schoolbags.





New Girdi Jungle:

In January we first visited the refugee camps of the newcomers in New Girdi Jungle who are living in tents. We thought these women very badly deserved some help in training and earning. For poor women sewing quilts is a good help and only under-privileged women are doing this type of work.

Due to an empty government store being available we decided to start the work immediately in New Girdi Jungle. We hired a house as a base in Dalbandin to be able to operate from there for a few days each month.

A large quantity of material is need for quilts and we have to get raw cotton transported from Punjab to Dalbandin, this means 1000 km distance. In the first six months we only had two pick-ups for taking teachers and material to the camps.



In New Girdi Jungle we worked with 31 women on quilt production. First they learned by using second-hand clothes to sew children's clothes. All the women got a sewing machine at half-price and we introduced the solar cooker to these women at the same time as teaching quilt sewing.

At the end of March we had to stop producing quilts as the warehouse was full and the distribution was not arranged, which meant that these most deprived people could not work.

July, 1988.

Mohammad Khail

Transit camp

This group of people have for two years been living in tents between camps No. 4 and 5, in what is called Transit camp. The first time they received ration was in May,88 after waiting for two years. They still live in tents and we conducted the courses in tents in three different places among this group.
They are nomads who for the first six years moved from one place to another, but finding no peace anywhere they moved nearer to Kandahar. They left there also after heavy fighting in the area and reached Pakistan after three or four months. On the way they tried to work otherwise they had to beg. They also moved about in Pakistan trying to find work or get rations, but most of them stayed in this Transit camp.
When we came with our programme of sewing secondhand clothes to children's clothing and schoolbags, the leader said he was not sure if the women really could learn how to use a sewingmachine or would just run away with the sewingmachine. When we came back after Ramzan all the women were there wanting to lean how to sew and pay the half price for the sewingmachine from what they earned. They had to go very far to fetch water but now that they started getting rations in May they have dug a well and may also construct houses for themselves.

Here are some background information of women in their transit camp.

Fatima has been a widow for eight years and her five children of whom one daughter is married. She was also badly injured and said she still has bullets in her body which hurt her. She said as nomads in Afghanistan she belonged to no particular place, but they were mostly around Kandahar. They had to sell their animals to reach Pakistan, and here she has had to beg in different villages.

Gul Maido is a young woman with two children living with her brother who is a Mujahid, as her husband is helping the Russians to fight against the Mujahidin, She doen't want to see him again. Her brother has not got a ration-card, but the Mujahidins organization is helping him and her family. She said if things get better in Afghanistan they would go back. She needs not only a tent but also goats and food.

Khor Bibi is a young woman with three children, whose husband is a Mujahid and is fighting in Afghanistan. She lives with her husband's mother and they have to go begging in the villages. She said it is very difficult to live without any male relatives in the tent and it would be better if they go back home. This life would be the same, but the landscape is very different. In Afghanistan there is everything green and here there are only stones and sand.

Anni is a young woman who is the second wife of her husband, his first wife having died. She now has to look after his five children. They came two years ago to Pakistan and on the way lost two camels. He left two months ago and told her he is going to search for those camels, but he has not returned yet. She finds it very difficult to to look after the children but as she now gets rations it is a little easier. When we came out of the tent, the men in the camp told us that she is now a widow, as her husband has been killed, but they have not tell her yet.

Shah Paro is an old woman with eight children and a blind husband. Since he became blind three years ago she has had to beg for food to feed the children. She sold two of her daughters a few yaers ago but the money has been used now. She said that when the war started she began to move towards Pakistan, one of her daughters married to a Pakistani and lives in Quetta. When asked about going back to Afghanistan she said it will be the same for her whether she returns or stays.

Zar Bibi is a woman with three children whose husband is a Mujahid. These days he is in hospital with an injured hand. They had animals in Afghanistan which they had to sell, while the remainder were killed. Now she is very dependent on ratoins.

Sharango is an old woman with six children the eldest son being a Mujahid in Afghanistan. Her husband is a Mullah for the few nomad-families and he practised this in Afghanistan also. He is not earning enough for the family, so they sold their 10 years old daughter for Rs. 35,000/- for marriage. They have nearly used that money and the in-laws are also demanding the girl. When asked about going back to Afghanistan she said she does not really wish to go back. Firstly she feels frightend of bombardments and the mines lying around and secondly because they have no goats now and and would also have to stay in tents.

Siah Bando is an old woman with seven children, one daughter is married two are young. One of her son is a Mujahid who got injured and came to Quetta hospital. Two months ago he came back from the hospital and is lying in the tent because he still cannot walk due to having had many bullets in his body. Her second son is mentally ill and has his own family with two children. The third son was cooking for the Russians group in Afghanistan for one year but he ran away and came to Pakistan to live with her. Her fourth son is married and lives in Quetta on his own. They had animals in Afghanistan but some were killed in the bombing in Kandahar others had to be sold and some had to be eaten in order for the family to survive. They would like to go back to Afghanistan when the time comes.

Mohammad Khail Camp 5

We had 14 courses on making school uniforms in camp 5, Mohammad Khail. Many of the women were nomads before, belonging to the tribes. Their economic situation is very poor and they greatly appreciated learning how to sew school uniforms and getting a machine at half price.
In two of these groups we also introduced the solar cooker to the women.
Several groups did fine embroidery work for us although we had to do some quality control.
Soap making was also introduced in this camp.
In camp 4,78 women did some embroidery work for us for which we had to do some quality control.





October, 1989.

Mohammad Khail Camp No. 5 :

7 groups of disabled men and

38 groups of destitute women have been trained in preparing schooluniforms and schoolbags, and all of them could earn a sewing machine at half price during their training. The schooluniforms has given them good training in sewing.

The men have more difficulties to learn than the women, but all were eager to learn. Many men came and asked us to take them in our groups to learn sewing. Some said they have several bullets in their body which can't be taken out easily, and they don't carry heavy things anymore. They said the other men who had lost an arm or a leg they still can go to the front to help do many things for the mujahideen.

Only one senior woman instructor is able to teach the men; the others can only teach women. Later on we had an afghan male instructor in Gilla Chah to teach the men.

Men also ask the teacher to have patience with them, because before they were looking after goats and sheep and so sew with the machines is completely new to them.

We also had a man who had only one arm and although he tried to hold the material with one leg, he found it also too difficult and asked if his wife could do the training instead.



September, 1988

Here is some background information of groups of women we worked with:

Mohammad Khail Camp 5: This is a group of 50 families belonging to Sasoli (Baluch) tribe who lived in tents mostly around Kishni Khud new Mayand in Afghanistan. They were nomads but now they live in Mohammad Khail Camp 5.

Due to heavy bombing from the planes and being shot at from the tanks, these people as well as those from the nearby village, had difficulties to leave and all the families lost some members, including children and animals. After leaving they came towards Pakistan, some by camels and donkeys but most of them walked. It was very difficult without food, water and cash but they met some other refugees who helped them. Reaching Mohammad Khail the government told them to build mudhouses and they got rations and two quilts per family. The women are safe here but the men go for work in different places and some for fighting.

When asked about going back to Afghanistan, they reply that they would prefer to stay in Pakistan because they had animals before to look after but now have nothing. They are even afraid that local Afghans who helped the Russians may not let them move around and stay on their land, as they have no land of their own.

Khialo is a woman with 6 children aged between 4 to 15 years and a husband who is old and always sick. In her house there are 12 people, as her husband had two wives. One died and left behind 3 sons, who are all big. Two are in Jihad, but one got killed and his two children are left behind as orphans. Three years ago when there was heavy bombardment many people from her family were killed, including her daughter who found a doll and by touching it got killed. She said the way from Mayond to Mohammad Khail was very hard with small children and a sick husband to look after and without food and money. They had a very difficult time until she got rations but she still does not find it easy to manage.

Fatima is a woman with 6 children and an old husband. Her children are aged between 3 to 10 years. Her husband has a stiff neck and bent hands so he cannot work and she does not know if this can be cured.

In the bombardment in Afghanistan her eldest son, uncle, cousin and other relatives were killed. They came by walking in one month reached Pakistan. They had animals in Afghanistan which her husband could look after but now they are dependent on rations.

Tatie has 9 children of whom two girls are married and the other children are small. Her husband is a labourer who earns very little. They were nomads in Afghanistan and had animals so she said their life was very easy because they could move with the tent and animals and get water and wood.

Khadija has 6 children. Her husband is a labourer in Quetta now but comes to the camp every 2-3 months. to help support the family.
Many people and animals got killed by bombardment in Afghanistan and the rest of the village and surrounding nomads walked together to Pakistan. Happily they get basic rations.

Zar Jan is the eldest girl of about 25 years. The family consists of four sisters and brothers and an old father. One of her brother is in Jihad and the other younger brothers go to the mountains to bring bushes to sell to others as fire wood.
Many of her relative as well as her mother were killed in the bombardment in Afghanistan, so they would like to have peace now.

Zar Khatoon is a young woman with two small children. Her husband is helping a local farmer near here. Her parents are also living with them. They also escaped with the other villgers after the bombardment.

Taj Bibi is a young woman with four small daughters. She is from Kandahar and arrived in Mohammad Khail one year ago. She still has no rations, because she does not belong to any particular group. Her house was bombed and her husband was captured by the Russians, so she had to travel with some villagers. Her husband was a driver before and during the last ten days he has arrived, as he could escape from the prison.

Mah Gul is a young woman with 3 small children who belong to a Hilman tribe. Her house was bombed and her father, sister, uncle and cousin were killed. She walked with her husband and children to the border and from there they got a lift in a truck from the Mujahidin organisation who were bringing the injured to Pakistan. They brought them to this camp, but she still has no rations because she does not belong to any particular group leader. Her husband fell in the well and has broken his hands. and back, since when he has had to stay in bed.

Saeed Bibi belonged to Khanshin and for 5 years she has been in Mohammad Khail Camp with her senven children. Her husband is a Mujahid and he brought her to Pakistan before her village was bombed. He got badly injured while in Jihad and since then he has been in Hospital, but he still cannot stand due to his injuries. She finds it quite difficult to be dependent only on rations, with seven children and a sick husband.



E. Neuenschwander

Elizabeth Neuenschwander,
Project Manager.



Loralai

Zarkarez 1 and 3 : Many neglected women are in Loralai and they could come to the training center to produce quilts until 15th February 1988. Then the leaders stopped the women working on quilts in Zarkarez No. 1 & 3, but in Spedar camp many requested us to train them in quilt working. I thought this was also good, as many women profited at the end of 1987 by sewing quilts in Zarkarez No. 1 and 3 and got sewing machine at half price.
In Spedar there are still many women whom we could not reach before, so we were working there, but we need a pick-up to bring the material to their houses and collect the finished quilts.
In April and May we finished the remaining material in the store for quilts and I feel very sorry, specially for the most neglected women who could have done more work on the quilts. The last 7 groups were also sewing school-bags. In September we could work again on quilts.





August 1988

Here is some background information of women in this camp:

LORALAI SPEDAR

This group consists of ten families who are of the Hotak tribe and almost from the same place Baghlan/Garam Chashma. They had to walk on foot from Garam Chashma to Peshawar for about two months to reach Pakistan. One month later they were shifted to Spedar by government trucks and for the last four years they have been living in the same camp. Half of them are getting rations and mostly they have to depend on this, though the men go to the bazar to find some work. Sometimes they manage to get work sometimes not.
They would like to go back home only if all the Russians and their supporters are pulled out and they would be set free and if they could get some work to earn their bread.

All the group members have the same view about their return and re-settlement in Afghanistan: according to their own statement they would go back if the Soviet troops go away and the country is cleaned of mines and weapons and also if they can get jobs there to support themselves.

Bibi Fatima I is aged 40 yaers. They belong to the Hotak tribe and came from Baghlan on foot upto Peshawar. This woman has 8 children 5 sons and three daughters all of whom are young. Her husband is the only bread-earner for the family. He is a casual labourer but sometimes he has no job.

Gul Bibi I is about 50 years of age and her husband is 55 years old. They have 3 children, two sons and a daughter. The eldest son aged 20 is a mujahid (Soldier), younger son aged 12 years is a cripple and the daughter is 15 years old and already married. Her husband tries to support his family by getting whatever work he can find. They also came on foot like others and have been in Pakistan for 4 years.

Ma Bibi is about 50 years old and is a widow as her her husband died a a few years ago. She has three children, a sixteen years old son, and two daughters under fifteen. She has no ration and no one in her family is earning.

Gul Bibi II is a young woman of 30 years of age who has an old husband of 50. He is a Mullah (preacher) and for this work people give him something, hence he is supporting his poor family. Both their daughters are married.

Bibi Ashara is a widow aged about 50 years, as her husband died a few years ago. Her eldest son is 20 years old and is the only bread-earner for the family. Both of her daughters are young. They have got a ration card for 8 persons.

Bibi Zaira is 35 years old and her husband is 37 years old. He is a casual labourer and is the only bread-earner for them. They have three children one son and three daughters. The son who is 12 years old, is a cripple, as his hands and feet are diseased. They have a ration card for five persons.

Bibi Masada is a middle aged widow of about 40 years. She has only two children, a boy and a girl. The boy is over sixteen but is jobless. They have no ration card.

Bibi Naik Bakht is a young widow of just 30 years of age. She has three daughters, the eldest aged 15 is married but lives with her mother. They have no ration card and there is no one to earn for them, so she herself has to do whatever work she can.

Bibi Fatima II is 30 years old and her husband who is 50 is the leader of the group. They have four sons and a daughter, all of them are dependents on the parents, who have a ration card for nine people.



August, 1988.

Here is some background information of groups of women we worked with :

<u>LORALAI Spedar camp</u>

This group consists of 15 families who are mainly from Wilayat Josejan of the Babar tribe, and have now been in Pakistan for one year. They came from Wilayat Josejan to Sangeen on foot and later via Chaman to Surkhab and then Spedar in government trucks. Their leader states that they were quite content and happy living a very peaceful life, but very soon the Russians occupied their territory and put hundreds of thousands of people to death, while thousands more were injured or crippled. All the Population of Afghanistan was disturbed.

The leader said," We do not want to see Dr. Najeeb and the Russians. When they will vanish then there will be more peace and we would like to go back."

<u>Bas Bibi</u> is a young lady of 30 years of age. Her husband who is 34 years old is a casual labourer. He is also the leader of their tribe or group. She has only two children a daughter and a son, both of whom are small. Her in-laws are also living with them and they have got a ration card for six persons.

<u>Rabia</u> is aged 40 years and her husband is also 40 years. She has five children two boys and three daughters and an older daughter who is married. Her husband is jobless but always tries to get some work. They would like to go back if the situation becomes normal.



Bastamam is 50 and her husband who is 68 years of age is dependant on her. They have four children, three sons and a daughter. Her husband lost his eyesight and cannot see any more. Their eldest daughter is married and the eldest son who is 20 years old is in Quetta trying to find some work.
Perhaps the son is the only hope of income for this family.

Zarlal and her husband are both 25 years of age and who have three children, two sons and a daughter who are too small to work. Her husband has gone to Karachi to support the family, otherwise she has to do everything herself.

Fitak is 25 years old and her husband is 50 and is dependant on her as he is diseased. They have no ration no source of income so she has to do everything herself. They have two children, a daughter and a son who are both young. Her in-laws are also dependant on them.

Khawazha is 35 years old widow three children, one son and two daughters who are all below 10 years. They have no rations and no other source of income, so she has to do everything on her own.

Sabira is 35 years and her husband is 56. She has six children, three daughters and three sons. Her husband is a Mullah and sometimes he gets a chance to work. They have a ration card for seven persons.

Makak is 35 years old and her husband is 50 years old. He is a Mullah and have no other other work except preaching, so the people sometimes support him. She has five children, three sons and two daughters and gets rations for seven people.

Saeedak is 60 years old and her husband is died a few years ago. She has five children, two sons and three daughters. Her sons are 25 and 35 years old and both are married. They are living with their mother, with their wives and children. Her younger son who is 25 lost one leg during the war, it was badly infected after injury in a bomb explosion and they had to amputate it. the eldest son is a labourer.

Khorma is 40 and her husband aged 60 supporting the family. Her husband's parents are also dependant on them, although there are a total of 10 dependants they only have rations for eight persons.

Zort Chah, Gilla Chah, Shirinab:

In these three different camps we taught 14 small groups of 8 women to make school uniforms and the women got a sewing machine at half-price. The women were really greatful that we came to serve in such isolated places. The roads leads through stoney fields between the rocky mountains without any trees. In summer we had to limit our work in those areas as it was really very hot and quite difficult for the teaching staff.

(Please see on the back the history of the women)





August , 1988.

Here is some backgroung information of the groups of women we worked with:

Zort Chah District Chagai. This is a Baluch group who have been living for one year in the Zort Chah camp. They came originally from Kunduz 3 years ago, via Chitral walking for five months. From there they walked to Peshawar and from there the government trucks brought them to Quetta.
They had local and Russian soldiers in their houses many times looting the women's jewellery and money and searching for weapons. The men always had to hide, otherwise they would have been taken, if they resisted then they would have been killed. After sometime the enemy started bombing the houses or burnt them, so the people had to run away. They had a very difficult time until they reached the Pakistan border. In Quetta it was also difficult to find work for the remaining men. Later on the government trucks brought them from Quetta to Zort Chah and after sometimes they got a very simple rations and could made themselves mud huts, so at least they had a place to stay without fear of bombardment and shooting.

Shirin is a woman with 4 small children who came with other relatives to Pakistan. 5 years ago, when her village was heavily bombed and hundreds of people got killed. There were also five people from her husband's house killed. The remaining people always moved with her from one place to another in Kunduz area, but had no peace. After they came to Pakistan, but in Quetta it was also difficult for her. In the camp she finds it easier, since they get rations and this helps her. Her husband is a Mujahid and for two years she has not heard anything so doesn't know if he is alive or not, but she is still waiting for his return.

Bajar is a widow with five children. There was very heavy bombing in her village in Kunduz and her husband, his brother and her cousin were killed. Since then she has had an exteremly difficult time. Until she came with her children and other villagers to Pakistan. In Quetta she had a difficult time as there was no one to earn for her family. She tried to earn something by opening nuts for shopkeepers. Sometimes she had to go begging and she collected paper from rubbish dumps for selling or for the fire. She also collected pieces of cloth or old clothes and stitched them together for clothing her family and for mats to sleep on.
Out in the Zort Chah camp she said it is better as they get wheat for bread and for other expenses she works for other refugees in embroidering belts and hats.

Loralai :

30 women in 3 groups made schoolbags.

164 women are working in Quilt production. After having produced only 2,600 Quilts our Storekeeper/Watchman was shot at once in the night. This incident interupted our work a lot, but happily the storekeeper did not lost his life nor were any bones broken, although it was a shock for the whole family. I appreciated his work greatly.

We decided to use our training center only a store and produce the quilts in other camps. We had to improvise a lot, becaose emergency room had to be found to put the material in. A boundry wall had to be constructed and tents set up to enable the women to work in the shadow of the tents.

Daily transportation was needed to take the finished quilts to the house in Loralai, when there was no space in the government stores.



Mah Bibi is a young widow with a three years old son, who lives with her husband's family. She said the Russians came many times and the men disappeared. Another day the soldiers came and were shooting from the tanks; then sudd she saw them running to her house shooting around and also at her husband. Th took him to the other room and when she could not bear to hear the crys of he husband any more she told her mother to go and look.
The soldiers beat the women with the back of their guns and she could not put out the fire as they burned her husband alive. Her baby was also killed and h 2½ years old daughter was missing; she heard her screaming but she doesn't kn if she is still alive or not. Her youngest son was born on the way to Pakista

Zarmina is a widow with four children. Her husband and one daughter were killed in her village by a bombardment and she herself got badly injured. She said she still has bullets in her body but she can't leave her children and go to the hospital for an operation to remove the bullets. She had nothing to take with her to Pakistan, but people were kind and gave her food on the way. Her eldest son is working in a shop in Dalbandin and earns Rs. 300/-, which helps her. She arranged the engagement of her 10 year old daughter to a man who is Mujahid, but she recently got news that he has been killed.

Badam is a widow with four children and the old mother of her husband who came with her relatives to Pakistan. Her husband and his brohter were Mujahidins and she was still in Kunduz she got news that both her brothers has been killed. She still finds it very difficult to do things without male members and it is a struggle to survive.



July, 1988.

Here is some background information of the women in this camp:

Gilla Chah

Histories of our School-uniform workers

This is a group of 150 houses, whose occupants came from Kunduz 3 years ago after their village was bombed several times and the children got frightened. The people moved towards Pakistan and their group leader said that they had difficulties to cross the border.
The men came by walking in the night but some of the women were sent in the trucks. They put water melons in the truck and the women and the children hid in between. If they were caught they were not allowed to cross the border. One family was caught and sent back when their truck had to stop for checking at the border and the children started crying. They really had many difficulties, specially because the way which they selected via Nuristan, Chitral had to be walked all the way until Peshawar. Sometimes there was much water on the way and they had to wait, as they had no money to buy anything, sometimes they found a little work to do, and at the other times they had to beg.

After four months travelling they reached Peshawar where government trucks brought them to Quetta. They had to struggle to feed their children as they could not get rations because they did not go to the camp.
After 3 years they were transported to Gilla Chah and had difficulties there in the beginning. They only had a few tents and were sent out among barren rocks, stones and sand and it was very hot.
Fortunately they had a little water so they could plant some vegetables.
Here in this group we introduced a solar cooker too.

Bas Bibi : Bas Bibi is a woman with five children and an old husband. In the bombardment many people from her village got killed. She came via Nuristan and Chitral and said that it was really tough on the way. One day a lot of water came down the mountains and washed away her cousin. They searched for him and could not find him anywhere.

Iqbal Bibi : Iqbal Bibi is a woman aged 35 with four children, whose husband is in Jihad. In the absence of her husband she had to go begging to feed her children. She said it is better now to have rations and not go begging.

Guldasta : Guldasta is a middle aged woman with five children, who has a sick husband. She said her village was bombed badly, many of the relatives got killed and she was frightened about losing her children. In the beginning her husband went to the mountains to bring the wood and the children brought bread from a charity hotel, a place where they can get free bread, as the loca people pay for it. Since her husband was sick, she had a difficult time in Quetta, but now she said it is a little better in the camp since they got rations.

Gul Guti : Gul Guti was also from the same village in Kunduz and when the bombing started people left in different directions and separated from each other. Some came via Chaman and rejoined the others in Quetta. They had a difficult time in Quetta, as her husband is a mujahid and she is alone with her four children. She is happier now as she gets rations. Last year in Quetta her husband came once after enquiries were made whether he was dead or alive. She said she had a lot of jewellery at the time of her marriage, but when the Russians came in the beginning, it was taken away from her.



Bibi Dana is a middle aged woman of the Uzbek tribe with 5 children from Baghlan. Her village was bombed and all except 4 families were killed. Their animals were also killed in the bombing. They came over difficult passes and ways via Chitral to Pakistan and later to Peshawar and Quetta where they lived for three years. Her husband could do a little labour work. They had many injuries when they left Afghanistan and also lost one daughter. Some of the men are frightened and will not leave the children and women alone in the camp while they surch for work, so they are dependent on rations.

Jamal is a middle aged woman with 7 children whose husband is labourer in Quetta. She has been sick for seven months and is now admitted in Civil Hospital in Quetta. She also came with the other group via Chitral to Pakistan.

Tatia is a young woman with three children who is staying with her mother-in-law. Her husband is a Mujahid who hardly come back even once a year. In Kunduz there was bombing every day she said. Her brother-in-Law was killed and many relatives too. Their house was also destroyed and they left with their camels and donkeys in the night. They traveled for 4 difficult months via Garam Chashma to reach Chitral. There they sold the rest of their animals to enable them to travel by road to Peashwar and later to Quetta.
In Quetta they stayed for three years, but has no male member to earn for the family, so she has spent all her possessions to survival.
Later they were transported to the camp, where they got rations, but she has no cash in hand to buy medicine and clothes for the children.

Sardar is a young woman with 5 children and a sick husband. Her brother get killed and his wife married again but left the children with her. Another family's children were also left with her when their mother was killed and those children injured. It was her husband's brother's family. She finds it very hard to look after so many children with out any cash in hand.
In her village many people got killed and many more were injured. Those remaining left at night and traveled for nine months to reach Chitral. There they sold the donkeys and traveled by road to Peshawar. From there they got government trucks to travel to Quetta and after three years waiting around in Quetta, the government trucks brought them out to Gilla Chah camp where they have been getting rations for the last six months.

Elizabeth Neuenschwander.

Gulistan and Piralizai:

There we had to train the women in quality control of their own Kandahari embroidery and more than 50 women participated . We had big orders for Save the Children US Islamabad for this embroidery work and we produced about 300 Blouses and sent [illegible] to Switzerland. The women could also profit and get a hand operated sewing machine at half price.





To enable me to get more sewing machines for the Afghan women, I printed a photo calender for 1989. Many of my friends at home and here contributed towards being able to buy more sewing machines for the Afghan women so that they could learn a skill and also have a tool to earn money and thus add something to their living costs. Together with the Revolving Fund 237 sewing machines has been donated by friends from Finnland and Switzerland, amount of Rs. 108'000.--. Many thanks to every one.

E. Neuenschwander
Elizabeth Neuenschwander





CRS WOMEN PROJECT QUETTA

AR WOMNE WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN DIFFERENT SKILLS IN 1988

S.NO.	STARTED	COMPLETED	PLACE AND GROUP	SKILLS	NO. OF WOMEN
1.	05-01-88	31-01-88	Gulistan and Piralizai	Emb. Q. Control	27
2.	07-01-88	16-01-88	DBN,Zohar Chah,Arbab Musa	School uniforms	08
3.	09-01-88	24-01-88	Moh. Khail, Turgeman	School uniforms	06
4.	16-01-88	24-01-88	Zarkarez No. 1	Quilt sewing	27
5.	07-02-88	14-02-88	DBN,New Girdi Jungle	Quilt sewing	21
6.	21-02-88	28-02-88	Moh. Khail, Turgeman	Emb. Q. Control	05
7.	03-03-88	13-03-88	DBN, Zohar Chah	School uniforms+Soap	08
8.	03-03-88	03-03-88	DBN,Zohar Chah,Kamaldin	School uniforms	08
9.	13-03-88	17-03-88	Spedar,Abdul Ghafar II	Quilt sewing	16
10.	14-03-88	17-03-88	Spedar, Shirin	Quilt sewing	16
11.	14-03-88	17-03-88	Spedar, Shirindil	Quilt sewing	14
12.	06-03-88	20-03-88	DBN,New Girdi Jungle	Quilt sewing	10
13.	19-03-88	19-03-88	Moh. Khail, Transit I	School bags	08
14.	23-03-88	31-03-88	DBN,New Girdi Jungle	School uniforms	05
15.	24-03-88	31-03-88	DBN, New Yakhab	School uniforms	10
16.	27-03-88	05-04-88	Spedar, Moh. Munir	Quilt sewing	10
17.	27-03-88	06-04-88	Spedar,Moh. Umar	Quilt sewing	10
18.	27-03-88	07-04-88	Spedar,Sahib Khan	Quilt sewing	16
19.	02-04-88	09-04-88	Moh. Khial, Turgeman	Emb. Q. Control	18
20.	14-04-88	21-04-88	Moh. Khail, Turgeman	Emb. Q. Control	12
21.	14-04-88	30-04-88	Spedar,Abdul Majeed	Quilts and School bags	10
22.	23-05-88	30-05-88	Moh. Khail, Turgeman	Emb. Q. Control	10
23.	23-05-88	06-06-88	Moh. Khail, Transit II	School bags	09
24.	24-05-88	30-05-88	Gulistan and Piralizai	Emb. Q. Control	08
25.	22-05-88	14-06-88	Moh. Khail,Transit III	School uniforms	09
26.	29-05-88	12-06-88	Moh. Khail, Moh. Sadique	School uniforms	08
27.	05-06-88	05-07-88	DBN,Gilla Chah, Masoom Khan	School uniforms	08
28.	06-06-88	06-07-88	DBN, Gilla Chah, Malik Amir	School uniforms+Soap	08
29.	18-06-88	15-07-88	Moh. Khail, Baz Moh.	School Uniforms+Soap	08
30.	20-06-88	16-07-88	Spedar, Moh. Shirin	School bags	19
31.	21-06-88	05-07-88	Moh. Khail, Moh. Anwar I	School uniforms	08
32.	27-06-88	12-07-88	Moh. Khail, Moh. Anwar II	School uniforms	08
33.	20-06-88	03-07-88	Moh. Khail, Turgeman	Emb. Q. Control	12
34.	30-06-88	07-07-88	Gulistan and Piralizai	Emb. Q. Control	09
35.	01-07-88	07-07-88	Moh. Khail, Turgeman	Emb. Q. Control	09

Continued **

CRS WOMEN PROJECT QUETTA

AR WOMEN WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN DIFFERENT SKILLS IN 1988

S.NO.	STARTED	COMPLETED	PLACE,GROUP AND LEADER	COURSE/SKILLS	NO. OF WOMEN
36.	02-07-88	10-08-88	Mohd. Khail, Abdul Hakim	School uniforms	09
37.	01-07-88	17-07-88	Spedar, Mauladad	School bags	11
38.	13-07-88	15-08-88	DBN, Gillachah, Abdul Ghaffar	School uniforms	08
39.	10-07-88	31-07-88	Mohd. Khail # 5, Sultan Mohd.	School uniforms	09
40.	18-07-88	28-07-88	Spedar Abdul rahim	School bags	10
41.	14-07-88	05-08-88	Gulistan and Piralizai	Emb. Q. Control	15
42.	15-07-88	10-08-88	Mohd. Khail, Turgeman	Emb. Q. Control	12
43.	16-07-88	10-08-88	Mohd. Khail,Fateh Mohd.	Emb. Q. Control	32
44.	16-07-88	12-08-88	Mohd. Khail, Mohd. Anwar	Emb. Q. Control	14
45.	20-08-88	26-08-88	Mohd. Khail, Dost Mohd	School uniforms	09
46.	20-07-88	28-08-88	Mohd. Khail, Saeed Nabi	Emb. Q. Control	12
47.	03-08-88	25-08-88	Mohd. Khail, Pir Mohd	S. uniforms + Soap	09
48.	03-08-88	22-08-88	Mohd. Khail, Chander Khan	School uniforms	07
49.	18-08-88	25-09-88	Zortchah, Fatehullah Khan	School uniforms	06
50.	18-08-88	25-09-88	Gillachah,Haji Juma Gul	S.uniforms + Soap	10
51.	20-08-88	20-09-88	Dalbandin, Yakhab	Emb. Q. Control	06
52.	27-08-88	20-09-88	Mohd. Khail, Badal Khan	School uniforms	08
53.	30-08-88	22-09-88	Spedar Arbab Ghulam	School bags	11
54.	06-09-88	30-09-88	Dalbandin, Sher Ali	School uniforms	08
55.	10-09-88	06-10-88	Mohd. Khail, Saeed Mohd.	School uniforms	09
56.	22-09-88	25-10-88	Dalbandin, Gul	S.uniforms + Soap	10
57.	25-09-88	25-10-88	Mohd. Khail, Saeed Ali	school uniforms	08
58.	27-09-88	15-10-88	Spedar , lal Mohd.	School bags	10
59.	28-09-88	12-10-88	Zarkarez No. 1 & 3	Quilts sewing	25
60.	08-10-88	02-11-88	Mohd. Khail Haji Akbar	S.uniforms + Soap	10
61.	10-10-88	06-11-88	Mohd. Khail # 5, Widows	School uniforms	08
62.	17-10-88	10-11-88	Mohd. Khail # 5, Amanullah	School uniforms	08
63.	23-10-88	20-11-88	DBN, Zortchah, Noor Mohd	S. uniforms + Soap	11
64.	27-10-88	10-11-88	Zarkarez no. 1 & 3, Group #1	Quilts sewing	29
65.	30-10-88	20-11-88	New Girdi Jungle	Quilts sewing + Soap	25
66.	21-11-88	30-11-88	New Girdi Jungle	Quilts sewing	25
67.	10-11-88	25-11-88	Zarkarez No. 1, Group # 2	Quilts sewing	30
68.	20-11-88	30-11-88	Zarkarez No.1 & 3, Group # 3	Quilts sewing	30
69.	01-12-88	10-12-88	Spedar, camp	School bags	10
70.	01-12-88	10-12-88	Zarkarez No. 1 & 3, Group # 4	Quilts sewing	20

CRS WOMEN PROJECT QUETTA

AR WOMEN WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN DIFFERENT SKILLS IN 1988

.NO.	STARTED	COMPLETED	PLACE,GROUP AND LEADER	COURSE?SKILLS	NO. OF WOMEN
71.	26-11-88	04-12-88	New Girdi Jungle	Quilts sewing	25
72.	28-11-88	31-12-88	Mohd. Khail, Amanullah	School uniforms	06
73.	01-12-88	31-12-88	M. Khail #5, Abdul Sattar	School uniforms	09
74.	15-12-88	22-12-88	Zarkarez No. 1 & 3, Group #5	Quilts sewing	30
75.	17-12-88	24-12-88	Zarkarez No. 1 & 3, Group # 6	Quilts sewing	10
76.	19-12-88	26-12-88	Zarkarez No. 1 & 3, Group # 7	Quilts sewing	40
77.	25-12-88	31-12-88	Zarkarez No. 1 & 3, Group # 8	Quilts sewing	05

Total No. of women trained in 1988 :- 997

Women trained in 1988 :-

Dalbandin, camps	220	women
Gulistan & Piralizai	59	women
Mohd. Khail, camps	309	women
Loralai, camps	409	women
Total women trained :-	997	women

E. Neuenschwander

Elizabeth Neuenschwander,

Project manager.

SUMMARY OF THE CRS WOMEN PROJECT, 1988.

BY ELIZABETH NEUENSCHWANDER.

15,130 Quilts were produced, although there was an interuption due to the storage problems and no distribution of the Quilts to the refugees. In September, we began to go ahead again, but the storage problem still exist: we have to move the quilts and material to the private houses as well as every-where we can find a relatively safe place. Thenwe have to be finished by the end of the year, otherwise we have to return the funds given for it. This means that many poor women will not have the possibility to earn some cash or a sewing-machine.

414 women worked on the quilts and benefited from the work.

6,000 School uniforms were produced and;

262 women learned to sew and received sewing machines for half price.

4,500 School-bags have been produced for the cost of 4,000 schooo-bags.

88 women learned how to sew school-bags and received sewing machines at half price.

626 Sewing machines could be provided from UNHCR funds.

179 Sewing machines could be provided by donations; from private friends in Switzerland and Finland.

We have a revolving fund for the sewing machines so that the women pay back half of the price from the work they do and from this amount we can purchase new machines until all the funds are used.

1,280 Embroidery pieces were produced for Save the Children US. and for blouses sold in Office. Quality control has to be improved.

The market has been tested so far in Switzerland and bigger orders are expected in near future.

997 New women received training and payment in 1988, although the target was 400.

201 Embroidery women were included in this year's activities, although no funds were allocated for it.

127 Women paticipated in soap demonsterations.

Beneficiaries in 1988:-

	Skills and courses	No. of women	Total amount paid
a.)	School-uniforms	264	Rs. 139,900.00
b.)	School-bags	88	Rs. 47,109.00
c.)	Quilts	444	Rs. 262,192.00
d.)	Embroidery	201	Rs. 118,973.00
	Total:-	997	Rs. 568,174.00

E. Neuenschwander

Elizabeth Neuenschwander,
Project Manager.
31,December, 1988.

Umar Chah :

In September we started with four training courses in the refugee camp of Umar Chah in Dalbandin area. Ten years ago other than Daldandin and Chagai there was no bigger place in the region. But now in the refugee camps a new market center was built: Girdi Jungle. It is a town made by Afghans, a free town with proper laws and no police, where the mujahideen walk around with their guns. It is a duty free zone like Singapore or Hongkong. Where the smugglers pass and where you also can find heroin. Men sitting behind their metal boxes with a pile of money on them, will change your foreign currency in a few minutes. There is a market for camels and goats, if you like you can by a gun or a Coco-Cola.

In one of the workshops you can see how they take the rest of an aeroplane from Afghanistan to pieces. However if you visit this place you have to be attentive that your car does not get a new owner! Therefore it is better when you are accompanied by a levie (guard).

Girdi Jungle is built on a stoney plain surrounded by dark mountains. Which suddenly rise from flat ground. The yellow earth is covered with black stones between only a few thorny bushes try to grow. Continuing on the way to Chagai on a sandy or a stoney road, from time to time a pick-up or a lorry will cross your way at high speed, leaving behind a thick cloud of dust. It is incredible how many people can sit in one single car or how many goods can be transported in a pick-up van. Sometimes you wonder if they really will not lose any body or anything!

From Dalbandin to Girdi Jungle is one hour drive and from there you can reach Chagai in another 40 minutes. Chagai is a district town, but even today they do not have electricity in this remote place.

Though we had our training courses in the refugee camp of Umar Chah, we had to return for the night to Chagai. Fortunately we could stay there in the new Levies Headquarter of the Tehsildar. Umar Chah is 1½ to 2 hours from Chagai, and very close to the Afghan border. We had to drive on a marked natural road, escorted by Levies to protect us in this lonely region. There are only sandy hills with no vegetation and the glistening expanse of a gigantic salt lake. The houses of Umar Chah are hidden between sand hills; some of them are built with branches.

With 25 women in 3 groups, and one group of 7 disabled men, we started our training courses in schoolbags sewing. Formerly we had been introduced by UNHCR to the schoolmaster so that he could show us the houses of the poor women, but we ourselves chosen those women who need our help most.

CRS WOMEN PROJECT QUETTA

INCOME GENERATING PRODUCTION PROJECT FOR AR WOMEN IN BALUCHISTAN

The Project was started in June, 1986, in Loralai district.
AR women trained in different skills in :-

Loralai :-

Zarkarez No. 1	76	women
Katwee	77	women
Spedar	39	women
Muslimbagh	12	women
Total women trained :-	204	women

Production in 1986 :-

204 women were trained in cutting and sewing school uniforms.
8000 School uniforms were produced.

Activities in 1987 :-

AR women trained in different skills in :-

Loralai camps	312	women
Muslimbagh	64	women
Mohd. Khail, camp # 4	75	women
Gulistan and Piralizai	58	women
Total women trained:-	509	women

Production in 1987 :-

13,709 Quilts were produced.
2,500 School uniforms were produced.
3,720 School bags were produced.
Sweaters were knitted and; Soap demonsterations have been held.

Activities in 1988 :-

AR women trained in different skills in :-

Loralai camps	409	women
Gulistan and Piralizai	59	women
Mohd. khail, camps	309	women
Dalbandin, camps	220	women
Total women trained :-	997	women

Production in 1988 :-

6,000 School uniforms were produced
4,500 School bags were produced.

15,000 Quilts were produced.

1,281 Embroidery pieces were made, mostly for Save the Children U.S.A., Islamabad.

Soap demonsteration were held.

E. Neuenschwander

Elizabeth Neuenschwander,
Project Manager.

UNHCR + CRS

Supported by Oxfam

PK-SR-017

PROJECT IG FOR AFGHAN REFUGEE WOMEN

LORALAI, MUSLIMBAGH, MOHAMMED KHEL,
PIRALIZAI, GULISTAN REFUGEE CAMPS

APRIL 1987 - DECEMBER 1987

ELIZABETH NEUENSCHWANDER,
PROJECT MANAGER

REPORT OF THE IG PROJECT FOR AFGHAN REFUGEE WOMEN LORALAI / MUSLIMBAGH, MOHAMMAD KHAIL, PIRALIZAI REFUGEE CAMPS

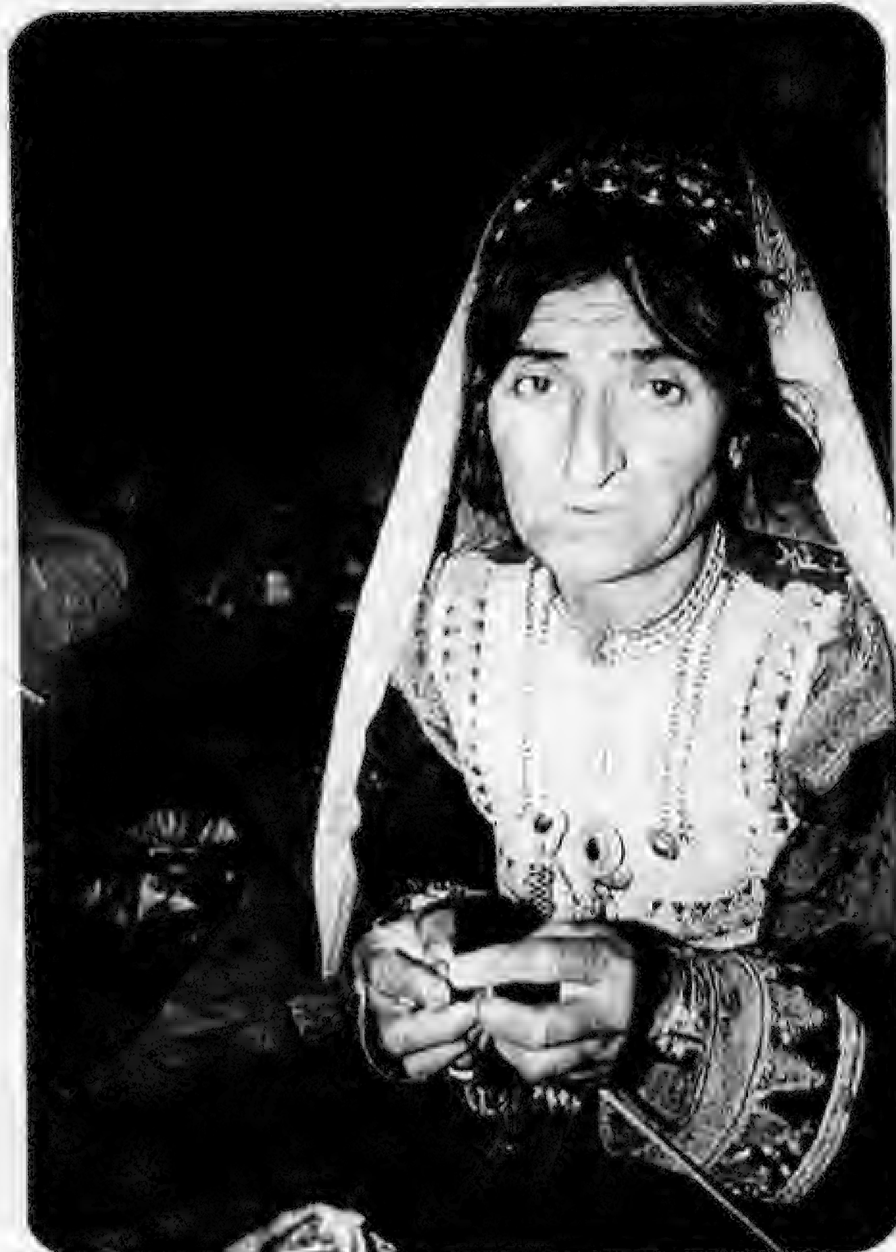
April 1987 to December 1987

Elizabeth Neuenschwander, Project Manager

This project is an extension of the last year project lasting from June 1986 to March 1987. The 8'OOO School Uniforms were completed at the end of February 1987. This project also encouraged the refugees to take up their own small business and we trained some women for that. The leader had accepted this idea with mixed feelings. Some said their women should do nothing else than some sewing and other work is beneath dignity. Other leaders whom we knew will, but are very poor, did not know what could be done and did not even have funds to pay for a little wood for roofing their rooms.

But importance was given to those women learning some basic skills so that they could use them in different ways and in different situations.

Due to the small amount of funds in hand at the beginning we had to teach time consuming skills with little funds involved, like knitting and crochet work, because the women had no knowledge about this at all. We first choose the Spedar Camp in Loralai due to its very poor economical condition (see life history on the back). We knew the leaders of those groups well an they were very cooperative.



In Spedar we conducted 3 courses in sweater knitting in different groups and one course in crochet of prayer caps.



Sweater knitting: UNHCR could give an order for sweaters to keep some of the children warm in the winter so as not to cough so much. Otherwise the women could also knitt out of local wool once they have learned the skill.



Prayer caps: They can easily promote this as their own business in the camp, because every man wears a prayer cap during the prayers.
In two groups, the best women are helping the others in knitting and crochet to enable them to be chosen for a sewing machine.





In Muslimbagh the leaders of the longer settled refugees said their women can do only sewing work. We therefore approached the Mullah leader of a new group who were only her for five months and he finally said we could try to teach the women something but he thinks they are only capable of looking after goats. He would prefer, if we would teach them sewing on the machines.
In this group we introduced knitting of children caps 10 women, crochet of prayer caps 8 women and sewing quilts by giving sewing machine on half price for 16 women. Later on 14 girls learned crochet from their own women.
30 women participated in the soap demonstrations.





In Muslimbagh we also had difficulties to find so-called teachers. The women and girls in Muslimbagh village who were interested to teach knew hardly any knitting and to be regular in work needs ours presence. Their pastoo is very poor. One Pathan-girl was quite good, but her family members stopped her for teaching, because they had arranged an engagement for her and her in-laws may reject her.





Between April and August 1987 we also had demonstrations in soap making, in Spedar, Katwee, Muslimbagh, Mohammed Khail and Piralizai Camps together with the women and their respective leaders. The women were devided into two groups and each group was given a pot, stick and material to prepare 2 kg of soap to be able to promote their own little business in the camp.

Katwee camp: Beside the soap demonstrations we organized among two families who knows fine cross-stitch-embroidery to teach others in the camps. With a lot of persuasion they teached others, but were afraid they would lose all the order work in cross-stitch-embroidery that they got before. We could really provide to a large groupe the cross-stitch-embroidery ordered by Save the Children US, Islamabad.



At the end of June we moved our office to Quetta and frc here we visited the Piralizai and Mohammad Khail camps. We introduced with two groups on both sides School-bags sweing and had demonstrations in soap making. We had difficulties to find female teachers who are willing to go to those camps, as they say it is too dangerous etc. We started testing Afghan women in their respective camps who could be used for teaching among their own groups.



Gulistan

Gulistan camp is closer to the border and people consider it very dangerous, not only because of the Afghans but many are more afraid of the Pakistan-Villages. The Ismat group is quite active in this area.

One of the leaders, Akhtar Mohammad of the Paragzai Tribe, approched us to bring this women's programme to Gulistan also. We decided to get in contact and taught a group of 12 women school-bags and school-uniforms sewing and provided each with a handoperated sewing machine at half price.

The women know fine Kandahari-embroidery. They did this embroidery after the order work was finished for school-uniforms and school-bags.



In the camps of Mohammad Khail, Gillah Chah and Umar Chah we have training classes for school uniforms and schoolbag sewing. We are grateful to UNHCR that we obtained these orders. It enabled us to give work to the poorest of the refugees, espacially to the people from Kunduz area. Most of them reached Pakistan after one two or more months. Very often they were bombed on the way and lost their animals and the few things they took from home.
The Kunduz women also have their traditional embroidery work, for instance coloured caps and richly embroidered dresses with golden ornaments. But, contrary to the Kandahar embroidery, they are not easy to sell in the local or foreign market.
On the other hand the poorest among those women have never learnt to do embroidery work and therefore they have no means to earn some money. For these people our taining courses are very important because they give them possibility to learn something and by getting a sewing machine to have a useful tool. In small groups of 8 to 9 women or disabled men, we try to give them optimal training, even if the time is very short. Already in their first lesson they start to sew school uniforms or schoolbags.
Especially for the disabled men who formerly worked as peasants or labourers, the beginning is very hard and the instructor must have a lot of patience.



Piralizai

Piralizai is about 1½ hours drive from Quetta. We taught two groups of eight and twelve women how to sew school bags. We also taught one of the group how to sew school uniforms and approns. First, both the groups practised making children's clothes from second-hand clothing and also received sewing machines at half price.

The women belong to Kandahar, so most of them also know the Kandahari embroidery. They embroidered on dresses, kamizes and other items for the market after completing our work order for school uniforms and school bags.

We also had soap demonstrations in both the groups.
Afghan dolls is a good selling item.





Mohammad Khel Camp 4, Quetta District

Im Mohammad Khel we worked in seven different groups, a total of 44 women altogether. Many more women and group leaders approached us to work with them, even from camp 5.

One of the groups have been refugees four times; they belonged orginally to Arbaitshan, then had to flee to Buchara and later to Afghanistan and now they have reached Pakistan. Six women each in two of the groups belonged to the Uzbek tribes.

All the groups have learned how to sew school-bags and many school-uniforms as well as stitching second hand clothes to make children's garments. All the women have received sewing-machines at half price.

One of the groups has also been provided with equipment for carpet knotting as they already have the skills. Spinning of wool is known by many Afghan women. The spinnwool is used by kilim- and carpet-weavers as well for sweater knitting.



Woman spinning wool

Quilt production

Quilt production requires a lot of funds and a big place to store them and for the material to stuff it. We did not have much funds in the beginning so only after two months we started preparing quilts.

We could use the training center which we built in the first project and started there with a few widows from Zarkarez No. I to prepare quil.s. Soon after women from Zarkarez No. III, all newcomers, asked if they could join. They walked 3 km every day one way to join the work, which was not at all possible in the first project. In the beginning some Mullahs and men objected and sent them back, but after a while more women came and asked to join. We took as many as we could, so that all had a space to work. Afterwards we had to make two groups so they could come in turn. Each of the women got a sewing machine for half price and this is very popular. Even from the first project the women did not sell their machines, even if they were very poor.



In the last months we also gave quilts to be sewn in Spedar camp. We had to pack in empty bags 4½ kg of raw cotton, the cut material and thread for sewing. We prepared a list for the driver so that he could cross off to whom he has given and who has given the finished quilt back. The drivers made about two or three trips in a day to distribute to about 100 - 1[illegible]0 workers in turn. In between we have to send them to D.G. Khan for raw cotton and material, as we have no storage space. Even though they are illiterate or with very little education, they worked very well if I did not ask too much of them at one time.

At the end we finished 13'700 quilts, 2'500 school-uniforms and 3'700 schoolbags.



Women in preparing quilts in Zarkarez No. I



Levies are helping to the driver to collect the quilts from the camp

Levies Escort

In Beluchistan we are required to have two levies who accompany us foreigners or Government officers to the camps for security reasons. Therefore we had to prepare a programme to go to the field for one month and then we had to keep to that schedule and it is not easy to change it. This does not make the work flexible, but after a time one gets used to it.

Sometimes there is also a seat available in the Helicopter to reach the camp, specially Loralai. This saves a lot of time and one is not dependent on the levies until reaching Loralai.





June 1987

CRS WOMEN PROJECT, QUETTA

Elizabeth Neuenschwander
Project Manager

History of the women in our knitting classes

There is a group of 60 families who have been living in the camp for 6 months, who belong to the Sagzai Tribe coming from Jawsajan, Afghanistan.

Heavy bombings took place in Jawsajan and the people got frightened and this group left all together one night moving towards Pakistan. They travelled on camels, horses and donkeys and needed four months to reach Pakistan Border by which time they had no animals left. First they came to Surkhab camp and some other refugees who were already there helped them out with food. One month later they were ordered to go to the present camp. A group who came out to check them told them to make their rooms. After five months they got rations, which were a bag of wheat for seven persons. Most of the people had to take loans from others to pay for getting ration cards, but due to not having funds the ration cards could not be obtained for many months.

From this group which is also good in Kilim weaving 12 women joined the knitting classes.

1. Zarka. She is a young women with one baby. When they reached here they did not have any thing to eat. Her husband left for Karachi to search for work. He has come back now and built a room, and has a little money to buy wood to prepare the roof of the house. He intends to go back to search for more work.

2. Nadara. She is a widow. Her husband was a farmer and he lost one arm in the war. Their life became very difficult and soon after he died. They had two daughters and one son and she went back to her parents with the children after her husband's death. She married her daughters and son and she lives now with one of the daughters. Her son is going to Loralai and other villages in search of work, which he can seldom get. They still have no money to buy wood to prepare a roof for the room. They also did not get ration for five months.

3. Gul Mako. She is a young woman with a 1½ year old baby. She learns quickly. Her parents died before she left Afghanistan and she has two brothers who are fighting for their country. Her husband tries to earn something here and there, so she lives with her husband's father.

4. Balanast. She has two sisters and two brothers and one old handicapped father. The two sisters are married and the brothers are still going to school. The father tries to get some work, but he cannot and they feel life is very difficult.

5. Bibi Jah. She has a small daughter and she lives with her husband, his mother and his brother. Her husband and brothers are trying to find work in Loralai or anywhere else. Her parents were left in Afghanistan.

6. Saat Bibi. She is alone with her husband and has no children. Her parents are still in Kandahar. They are now preparing a room for themselves in the camp. Her husband also tries to find labouring work in Loralai.

7. Nigar. They are two wives of a man living together. Nigar has one daughter and one son. The other woman has one son. Her husband goes for labouring work, building or anything. As he seldom gets work, she feels life is very difficult.

8. Kaldara. She is a widow with four children, three sons and one daughter who are still small. Her eldest son is about 12 years old and he feels the difficulties are too much. He told his mother he was going to work but he never returned. She has taken a loan from different people in the camp and is worried about how she can return it.

9. Lawang. Her husband lost an arm in the war. She has one daughter and lives with her husband's mother and brothers. The husband's brothers are trying here and there to find work.

10. Khorjak. She has one son. Her husband is in Peshawar to find labouring work and she lives with two younger brothers of her husband.

11. Bakhtawar. They are two wifes of the same husband, both of them having no children. There are ten people living together and here husband's mother has small children. He worked in Iran and came back before Ramzan to construct the room for them in the camp, and he went back to Iran to try to earn something.

12. Naz Bibi. There are five sisters and one brother and their father's younger brother who all live together. The brother and father's younger brother are still going to school. Their father ist sometimes in Afghanistan fighting and when he is here he tries to find work.

Elizabeth Neuenschwander
Project Manager

June 1987

Histories of trainees in our knitting classes:

1. Mastana belongs to the Babran tribe of Mazar Sharif in Afghanistan. She has 5 very small sons and one daughter who is mentally retarded. Her husband ist mostly sick and she has been in Spedar Camp for 7 months.
She told how Army tanks came one night to Mazar Sharif and the soldiers were sheeting around and then left. In the morning the people buried the dead and left for Pakistan. They came in a group an donkeys until Kandahar where they sold the donkeys and used this money for transportation to Pakistan. It took them 4 months for Mazar Sharif until they reached Chaman on the border. Next day they went to Quetta and were sent to Surkhab Camp. They did not get rations there and were told to move to Spedar. Here they got rations twice in 5 months, but only weat.
As her brother is in Jail in Afghanistan, the mother did not want to join the group to come Pakistan. Her husband's parents also did not join the group. She received 35'000 Afghan Rupies from a relative who worked in Iran, which she has to use for food and to build one room, until she gets regular rations.

2. Zargul belongs to the Babran tribe of Maymana village, Afghanistan. They were always worried that they could be hit by bombs, so they decided to leave for Pakistan. They reached Badina near the border on donkeys. There they sold the donkeys and travelled to Surchab/Pakistan by bus. They stayed there for one month and after that were sent by official vehicles to Spedar Camp. She got married in Surkhab Camp to an old man related to her. They are living since one year in Spedar Camp where they got rations after two months, but now, receive them regularly.

3. Janat Bibi belongs to the Baran tribe of the village Narong, district Maymana. During the second attack on her village eight people were killed in her family. Those remaining left the village the following night on donkeys. On the way they met another group which was also on the way to Pakistan. Her family could not take anything except the donkeys which they sold near the border. She is now married and lives with her husband's parents.

4.+5. Annar and Fatima belong to the Babran tribe of Tamjai of Maymana. Soldiers came in tanks to their village, shot around and burned houses and animals. Among others, two women of their family were also killed. They owned camels, goats, sheeps and donkeys, but many got killed in this fire. They took the rest of the animals with them ar.. killed them for food on the way to Pakistan.

Annar and Fatima are both wives of one man who is mentally disturbed from all this tension.

Annar also had to sell all her jewellery to help them survive, as she has two daughters and one son, all small.

Fatima has 3 young sons and two daughters.

6. Khan Bibi belongs to the Babran tribe of Tamjai in Maymana and has two small children. Her husband is mentally ill and also has head injuries from the war. He is worring about how he can pay back the money he took on loan from other people for food and to make a roof on their room. She is getting some rations and she tries to save some for selling to pay o..ner needs in the house. She has become very weak from poor food and all the worries.

7. Durkani is the daughter of Mullha who is working as Mullah in the Mosque. They belong to the Babran tribe and came from Mazar Sharif. She is a happy smiling girl and is the eldest of 4 brothers and 2 sisters. Her father always gets something from the people, so they have less hardship than the others. Her mother will exchange her with relations daughter for her son.

April, 1989.

CRS WOMEN PROJECT

Here is some background information about the groups of women we worked with.

1. Bibi Hura :- She belongs to Aman Khail tribe and came from Hilman in Afghanistan. They had no house there but lived in tents. She has five children and her husband is paralysed, being unable to use his hands and always having pains in his joints. They had animals in Afghanistan such as goats sheeps, donkeys and camels.
   Due to bombardments nearly every second day they had to leave their place and also lost many of their relatives. Bibi Hura also got a spliter in her body and treated in Quetta hospital.

   They used all the animals on the way to Pakistan and arrived three years ago in Mohammad Khail. Now they got rations but they are hardly enough for them all.

   She has difficulties to learn how to sew but her daughter learned well. She feels happy that the sewing machine will be a great help once they can go back to their country.

2. Bibi Zohara :- Of the Aman Khail tribe, came from Hilman 3 years ago. They lived in a tent as nomads in Afghanistan. There were bombardments from time to time, soldiers came to search the tents and sometimes forcibly took some girls with them. Therefore they felt unsafe living like that and so they moved with their animals towards Pakistan. On the way they were also bombed and the animals became frightened by the noise each time there were such bombardments. The camel on which Bibi Zohara was riding ran away and she fell down and so got injured by bomb spliters. Her relatives brought her to Quetta hospital and was treated there for three months, but the leg could not be saved and she remained lame. She said that she and her old husband felt at peace here in Pakistan although life is still difficult because the ration is little and her husband could only search for bushes to burn as firewood. Therefore she is happy to learn how to sew and get a sewing machine for half price.

CRS WOMEN PROJECT, QUETTA

Elizabeth Neuenschwander
Project Manager

History of the women in the sewing classes in Anatullah Karez in Gulistan

This refugee village is two hours drive from Quetta. All these 120 families belong to the Paragzai Tribe and are from different villages in Kandahar district.

Some of the men take turn in going for fighting while the other older ones stay behind to look after the women and children and are trying to find labouring work to earn something. Many of the women approached us to be included in our project and take part in our sewing classes so as to get sewing machines at half price.

1. Kadija is a young woman with five children who arrived seven months ago from Kandahar. They don't get any rations yet and her husband is an old man who helps a shopkeeper and earns Rs. 10.-- or 15.-- a day. She said it is very difficult to manage on this.

2. Khor Bibi is a widow since seven years and belongs to village Pirkot. Her age must be about 45 and she has one daughter and five sons. The eldest son is 20 and the second is 15 and they do some labouring work. The others are not going to school, as she is always thinking only how to survive. She said her daughter is 12 years old and could do some Kandahary embroidery. She gets rations of wheat an sometimes oil and tea.

3. Rutbaia is a widow since ten years and belongs to Yogaman village in Kandahar. Her age ist about 37 years and she has three daughters and one son. Only her brother sometimes give her some wheat, otherwise she is dependent on her dauthers who know Kandahari embroidery, but their help is also seldom. She has not yet got rations.

4. Mariam is a young women with two small children and an old husband. He helps a shopkeeper in the bazar and brings home 10 - 15 Rs. a day. They arrived three years ago from Kandahar and have not yet get rations. She is sewing clothes and doing Kandahari embroidery for others.

5. Bibi Hawa arrived in Pakistan with neighbours and her two daughters. Her husband left for Iran ten years ago but has never come back and she doesn't know anything about his whereabouts. She belongs to Pingwai village in Kandahar, but as there is often bombing, the people are no longer safe.

6. Annar Gul is about 45 years. Her husband is an old man who never gets work no matter how hard he tries to find it. They came eight years ago with seven children. Her eldest daughter is married, the other children are still young. She is getting rations, but would like to do some sewing or embroidery work, as the rations are not enough.

7. Halima is a young women with six children who belongs to Kandahar town. Her first husband was killed and she has now married his brother. The came here three years ago and her husband is selling sweets and biscuits for a shopkeeper in the bazar. They also get the usual rations.

8. Babo Gul belongs to Gulaman village near Kandahar and arrived three years ago. She has 5 children of whom one daugther is married and the four sons are still young. Her husband tries to find some labouring work and they are also getting the usual rations.

9. Bibi Gul also belongs to Gulaman village and left six years ago. She is a women of 35 and has 4 small children, the eldest being a boy of 12 years who helps in a local hotel and gets his food there and 2 - 3 Rs. a day. Her husband is old and hardly gets any work. One of the daughters already knows how to do Kandahari embroidery. The also have wheat rations, but no oil since three months.

CRS WOMEN PROJECT QUETTA DATE: 31.12.87

COURSE	START DATE	FINISH DATE	SUBJECT	PLACE	TOTAL PARTICULARS
1.	7.4.87	23.5.87	Knitting sweaters	Spedar	12- women
2.	8.4.87	23.5.87	Knitting sweaters	Spedar	6- women
3.	19.4.87	23.5.87	Knitting sweaters	Spedar	4- women
4.	19.4.87	23.5.87	Crochet prayer caps	Spedar	8- women
5.	6.5.87	31.5.87	Fine cross stitch	Katwee	25- women
6.	13.5.87	18.5.87	Soap making	Katwee	16- women
7.	13.5.87	1.6.87	Fine cross stitch	Katwee	14- women
8.	16.5.87	21.5.87	Soap making	Spedar	30- women
9.	3.6.87	08.6.87	Quilt making	Zarkarez-1	6- women
10.	9.6.87	22.6.87	Knitting & cap making	Muslimbagh	10- women
11.	9.6.87	28.6.87	Crochet prayer caps	Muslimbagh	8- women
12.	13.6.87	18.6.87	Soap making	Spedar	18- women
13.	20.6.87	29.6.87	Quilt making	Muslimbagh	16- women
14.	20.6.87	25.6.87	Soap making	Muslimbagh	30- women
15.	18.7.87	20.7.87	Quilt making	Spedar	20- women
16.	26.7.87	29.7.87	Quilt making	Spedar	15- women
17.	01.8.87	03.8.87	Soap making	Piralizai	8- women
18.	01.8.87	03.8.87	Soap making	Piralizai	11- women
19.	02.8.87	05.8.87	Soap making	Latifabad	5- women
20.	02.8.87	05.8.87	Soap making	Latifabad	13- women
21.	08.8.87	13.8.87	Quilt making	Zarkarez-3	16- women
22.	15.8.87	20.8.87	Quilt making	Zarkarez-3	20- women
23.	26.8.87	31.8.87	School bags sewing	Mohd Khail	4- women
24.	27.8.87	03.9.87	School bags sewing	Mohd Khail	8- women
25.	08.9.87	25.8.87	School bags sewing	Piralizai	8- women
26.	12.9.87	18.9.87	School bags sewing	Piralizai	8- women
27.	14.9.87	18.9.87	Quilt sewing	Zarkarez-3	10- women
28.	11.10.87	15.10.87	School bags & Uniform	Gulistan	14- women
29.	15.10.87	16.10.87	Soap making	Gulistan	9- women
30.	17.10.87	25.10.87	School bags	Mohd Khail	8- women
31.	20.10.87	24.10.87	Aprons & pot holders	Piralizai	8- women
32.	24.10.87	30.10.87	Quilt making	Zarkarez-3	11- women
33.	26.10.87	30.10.87	Quilt making	Spedar	30- women
34.	11.11.87	15.10.87	School bags	Latifabad	6- women

CRS WOMEN PROJECT QUETTA

DATE: 31.12.87

COURSE	START DATE	FINISH DATE	SUBJECT	PLACE	TOTAL PARTICULARS
35.	17.11.87	22.11.87	School bags	Latifabad	5- women
36.	18.11.87	10.12.87	School bags & uniforms	Latifabad	16- women
37.	21.11.87	26.11.87	Quilt making	Zarkarez-3	4- women
38.	01.12.87	06.12.87	Quilt making	Zarkarez-3	35- women
39.	12.12.87	25.12.87	School uniforms	Latifabad	6- women
40.	12.12.87	20.12.87	School bags	Latifabad	4- women
41.	18.12.87	22.12.87	Quilt making	Zarkarez-3	6- women
				Total:	509- women

WORKERS IN DIFFERENT SKILLS

S:NO.	NAME OF SKILLS	NUMBER OF WORKERS
1.	Quilt workers	232- women
2.	School bags	86- women
3.	School uniforms	44- women
4.	Embroidery	42- women
5.	Aprons	8- women
6.	Doll's dresses	4- women
7.	Knitting	26- women
8.	Crochet	8- women
9.	Soap making	59- women
	Total:	509- women

Badiro : Three years ago Badiro came to Pakistan from Kunduz in northern Afghanistan. They had their own house there and Badiro's husband worked in orchards. During a bombardment the house was destroyed, so Badiro left the country, together with four children and some relatives. They travelled mostly on donkeys, and one day when they were already walking towards Pakistan, they tied the two year old cousin onto his donkey. Suddenly they were surprised by a bombardment and tried to hide themselves between stones They could not take the child from the donkey to which he was still tied, so he was hit and died with the donkey.

Badiro is terribley frightened since that time, which has made her nervous hence she seems to suffocate all the time when she hears of death and when she remembers what happened. The other people say of her, that she sees ghosts in those moments, and nobody can talk to her then and she just trembles. Now Badiro feels a bit relieved, since she lives in Pakistan where she need not fear bombardments.

However her husband has been a mujahideen for the past three years and came to see her only once. She has no news about him and is living in the camp with her mother-in-law.



Gulnaz : Five years ago Gulnaz, her two brothers and two sisters went to Pakistan along with their grandfather. Their mother sent them away after their house had been partly destroyed. The youngest child was only one year old at that time, and the parents remained in Afghanistan. The father is a freedom fighter and the mother takes food to the mujahideens. The grandfather and the grandchildren travelled in a lorry together with other people and they reached Pakistan in one month because they were bombed on the way. Once they were caught by the Russians, but the driver gave all the money they had to them and they were released and could go on.
In Mohammad Khail they depend entirely upon the rations which are: flour, cooking oil and kerosine. They have no other income and find it very difficult to manage for themselves. The grandfather first asked if he could join the sewing course for disabled men, but because he is very old, we allowed Gulnaz, his eldest grandchild, to work instead of him.
The mother of Gulnaz is still living in her village in Kunduz and in the meantime has given birth to another baby. Gulnaz does not know whether she has a younger sister or brother.



Abdul Ghani : Disabled man.

Abdul Ghani has been a mujahideen for 8 years. One day when they were transporting guns and bombs, the mujahideens got attacked by the Russians and Abdul Ghani was wounded when a bomb piece struck against his leg. They transported him by a car to Pakistan to take him to the hospital,where they arrived in 1½ days. During their journey they were bombed in different places, but all of them escaped. Abdul Ghani was treated in Hizb-e-Islami Hospital in Quetta, where they had to amputate one of his legs, and he got an artificial limb.

For three years Abdul Ghani stayed with his parents and three bothers and sisters in the refugee camp of Mohammad Khail. His father sells goats and sheep. As Abdul Ghani cannot do any hard work, we provided him with a sewing machine at half price. After the second sewing lesson, he informed us that the mujahideens had called him back to Afghanistan where he would work for them again as a driver.

His mother is now working instead of him to pay for the sewing machine, but she does not attend the sewing lessons as she lives very far away and does not belong to the same group as the others.



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Project IG and Training for Afghan Women and Disabled Men

January - December 1989

LORALAI, MOHAMMAD KHAIL , PIRALIZAI, NEW GIRDI JUNGLE, GILLA CHAH, SORT CHAH AND UMER CHAH REFUGEE CAMPS

Elizabeth Neuenschwander
Project Manager.

